



The

Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club
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June 2005



Field Day 2005

...will be here soon!

June 25-26

In This Issue

Hams use CW to beat cell phone SMS messaging on The Tonight Show.....	3
Interesting Developments in BPLland.....	5
Oh No! My husband is missing!.....	6
Phil-Mont VE Exam Session Statistics for May 5, 2005.....	6
Spread The Word.....	7

The Blurb is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. *Copying and quoting* is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. *Subscriptions* are available to non-members for \$10, addressed to the Treasurer.

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In memory of Sam Kunceovich N3QIE - Blurb artist 1958-2004

Submissions deadline: all copy must be in the hands of the Editors by the 20th of the previous month.

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter/ 70cm Net**.....at 09:30et on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net**at 10:00et 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)
- **75 meter Net**at 10:20et 3.993 MHz LSB

License Examinations

are held on the **first non-holiday Thursday** each month (except July and August) at
Northeast High School,

Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia PA

Registration begins at 6:00 P.M. Enter through the SPARC wing. Exams begin and doors closed and locked at **6:30 P.M. Sharp!** Applicants should call Dusty ND3Q at 215-879-0505 (day) or 215 482 0386 (eve) for the latest information.

Club Stations

W3QV Club Repeater - Trustee: W3BBB

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA
147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz Δ 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz
Reach us on Echolink through WU3I-L

W3AA at Northeast High School - Trustee: WU3I

Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia, PA

W3EM - Field Day/special event station Trustee: W3VVS

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Committees

Archives: NG3P
Audit: NS3K
Awards: open

Blurb folding:
WB3KOJ & WB3KOH
Directory: WB3KOJ
DX: N3MT
Emerg.Coor.: K3HWE
Field Day: KE3QB

Internet: K3XS
Membership: KB3IV
Net Control: KB3IV
Publicity: W3RM
Program: Club VP

Public Service: KE3QB
Refreshments: W3AOK
Repeater: W3BBB
Skywarn: WX3PHI
Sunshine: N3GLU
Youth: N3MT

TVI: W3VVS
VE Program: ND3Q
W3AA Trustee: WU3I
Welcome: K3CJ.

Hams use CW to beat cell phone SMS messaging on The Tonight Show

Inspired by an exhibition at an Australian Museum, two radio amateurs demonstrated some advantages of CW over more modern communications technology on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno on the evening of May 13th.

In the original competition, part of an exhibit at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney, Australia this April, Gordon Hill was asked to transmit a line selected at random from an



The intrepid ops (in period attire supplied by the show):
Chip Margelli, K7JA (left) and Ken Miller, K6CTW

advertisement in a teenage magazine. Just 90 seconds after he began transmitting, Gibson announced that he had the message received and written down correctly.

It took another 18 seconds for Brittany Devlin's message to reach her friend's cellphone, even though she had made liberal use of abbreviations and the wire telegraphers had sent the message text in full.

On the Tonight show, Ken Miller, K6CTW did the receiving and Chip Margelli, K7JA was at the key. Ken provided some comments later on the Elecraft builders email list:

"The radios were FT-817's...we needed the most frequency agile radios we could get. When I talked to the technical folks, they recommended we start at 2



"SMOKIN'!" -- Chip cools off the fastest fingers on the stage

meters and go up because of all of the lower frequency noise and RFI from the other TV equipment.

“When I got there, we took out a spectrum analyzer and studied all of the interference possibilities. I ended up choosing 432.200 Mhz, because that guaranteed no RFI from their equipment and we were high enough not to overload their front ends either. Since we did not have the time to set up headphones, I just added some extra volume for me, had the stage folks cut my mike (to prevent feedback and overload) and copied off of the speaker.

View the segment online at:
<http://www.tarc.org/leno/leno.wmv>

“In rehearsal I had a number of lines which would have really done a nice job of plugging ham radio and telegraphy, however at our last dress rehearsal, they decided to cut them out to make the segment "fit". (maybe next time).

“I already knew that 28-30 wpm would easily keep us in front of even the current world record holder [at text messaging], and also it is the fastest speed that I can make nice readable copy on paper with a pencil...I thought they were going to do a camera shot of my copy for verification.

“They did try and get the fastest text messengers they could fly in...if the Tonight

Show folks had been able to get the equivalent world record holder in CW to do this, it would have been at almost TRIPLE the speed we were going at. I'm just an average CW op who occasionally operates the CW SS QRP, with my [Elecraft] K2 of course, and really enjoys CW, and traffic handling.”

Congratulations to both Chip and Ken!

...and speaking of the Elecraft K2, watch for coverage in a future Blurb of the K3XS/NG3P K2 project.



Chip Sends (nice Bencher there!)



Ken beams after raising his hand to announce victory.

Interesting Developments in BPL-land

Two interesting developments in "Broadband over Power Line" technology caught our eye this month.

Motorola announces "Ham-friendly" BPL system.

Newington, Conn., May 23, 2005 -- ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, announced today that "The ARRL is pleased to hear Motorola's announcement of its Powerline LV system. This is the first Access Broadband over Power Line (BPL) system that has been designed from the start with radio interference concerns in mind."

Motorola's Powerline LV system

avoids using the medium-voltage (MV) power lines and introduces broadband signals only on the low-voltage (LV) side of the power transformer. This greatly reduces the potential for interference to and from radio users, especially radio amateurs.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner commented, "We know that medium-voltage (MV) power lines are no place for broadband energy, since there is overwhelming technical evidence that radio interference from BPL is unavoidable if MV lines are used. By confining their Access BPL system to LV lines and by adding hardware notch filters for additional protection to amateur radio frequency allocations, Motorola has addressed our interference concerns."

While sometimes pictured by BPL proponents as opposing all BPL implementation, the ARRL has always maintained that radio

amateur "hams" are not interested in blocking new technology but are justifiably concerned about pollution of the radio spectrum. Significant interference has been documented at numerous sites where other BPL systems are being tested, and other BPL developers have been unwilling to share information about their systems. By contrast, Motorola invited ARRL's suggestions and welcomed its input during product development.

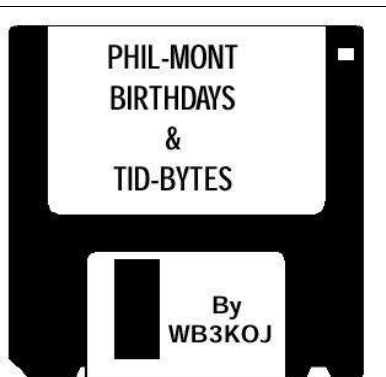
Nethercomm announces "Broadband over Gas Line" system

You can't make this stuff up...

(PRWEB) May 5, 2005 -- Nethercomm Corporation, the leading innovator of subterranean broadband communications, announces the development of Broadband-in-Gas (BiG) Technology.

This technology is designed to effectively multiply the current available bandwidth of cable television and all other broadband systems with data capacities exceeding ten gigabits. Broadband-in-Gas delivers unmatched levels of connectivity by making use of Ultra Wideband technology to wirelessly broadcast information in a way that is both safe and reliable by using the private spectrum isolated within natural gas pipelines.

...Gas lines. Radio signals in gas lines. I can hardly wait.



Membership Stats

At press time P.M.R.C. Has:

105 FULL PAID MEMBERS
10 FAMILY MEMBERS
1 YOUTH
0 HONORARY MEMBERS
0 PENDING MEMBERS

May Birthdays

04 Dick Moll - W3RM
Sue Sadwin - N2CYA
06 Chuck Hillman - K3QLY
10 Thomas Maresca (OM K3YPH)
12 Miriam Elmaleh - K3UJI

15 Coupe John - WA3BXH*
23 Temple Rykaczewski (XYL W3ALM)
24 Anthony Vece - W2AJV
30 Mike Lenczynski - KA3EIP
Fred Rice - WA3KIO

*New Member 2005

Oh No! My husband is missing!

What do I do? Where could he be? It's past working hours, so I know he should be home. Should I call work anyway to make sure he didn't work overtime and forget to call? He's not mowing the lawn; he pays another, much younger guy to do that. His car is here but he's nowhere near it. I don't see him talking with the neighbors across the street... Where can he be?!

Oh, wait. Do I hear a loud buzzing and a lot of sizzling and whirling noises? Is there a box going "whirl oh ah ruh?" He must be behind that door that is really our second bedroom, but he calls it his "radio shack." Admittedly he does have a lot of junk in there – a lot of black boxes and tons of wires and cables. Our computers are in there and I think he uses one to keep track of all that squirrely, buzzing noise.

The XYL life is always like this. Not that all men who call themselves HAMS get involved with this hobby and leave their wives to become lost souls without a partner. Women get into it too, and families. Our neighbors to the left – the mother, father, and teenage daughter, are all HAMS. (They prefer to use CW.)

Having found him doesn't mean I have him. He is in the house now, in his little room, but if I tried to speak to him he would

wave his hand at me to single that he is busy. He's busy listening to some unknown person through one of his black boxes with the dials. It seems to be never enough radios. He always wants one more! He says, "Wait one," to me and answers into the radio in his hand "that's a copy" or "Roger."

My lost husband also talks on the hand radio in the car and being mobile. I think we're going for a ride in the country, but he is chattering away on his own personal wavelength or something. I have to admit that sometimes having a radio nearby is handy. Say you get lost when you are going someplace where you are unfamiliar and you suddenly hit a traffic jam. Why not talk to your friend in no-where land and see if they know an alternative way? (They call talking this "making a call.") By the way, walking in a park can be mobile too, as long as

the radio-person has a hand-held in his hand or pocket.

My husband comes out from his little world saying he just talked to Japan, Russia, Romania, Israel, England, California or Iowa (for example). Something about the waves are clear. Does he think he is surfing now? The last time I looked in that room there weren't any high waves, clear waves, or any waves at all! But you know they have their own language too.

Yes, they definitely have their own language! Do you know what they call female spouses? XYL. That stands for "X young lady." However, it doesn't matter if the lady is married or not, or if she is young, or if she is a lady. I guess all that matters is that she is a HAM-widow of someone who loves his gear. He uses codes like "QRM" for man made noise, and "QRN" for natural noise. "CQ" means "I am calling." "73" means "Good-bye" and "88" means "hugs and kisses."

I can't believe radio people have been doing this stuff for over 100 years. Well, at least I know where my husband is. He's not in a bar or a stripper joint or playing poker with the guys. He's not even at Lowe's boasting over how big his power machine is and what it does. (In his world, the smaller box is usually the better one.) I am happy I've found the missing man in my life, and I don't even have to feed his friends pizza and beer. This XYL votes YES for HAM.

By XYL of N3OWM,
also known as Pat Katz



Phil-Mont VE Exam Session Statistics for May 5, 2005

Two candidates took two elements, and we had two upgrades. The VE team was chaired by Dusty Rhoads **ND3Q**, and the other participating VEs were :

BOB FREER W3YLT
JIM MCCLOSKEY NS3K
JACK COUPE JR. WA3BXN
RAY HEFFERMAN N3FH
GENE DINARDI N3XKE

Upcoming Exam Sessions:
JUNE 3, 2005, SEPTEMBER 2005 TBA

(See page 2 for details)

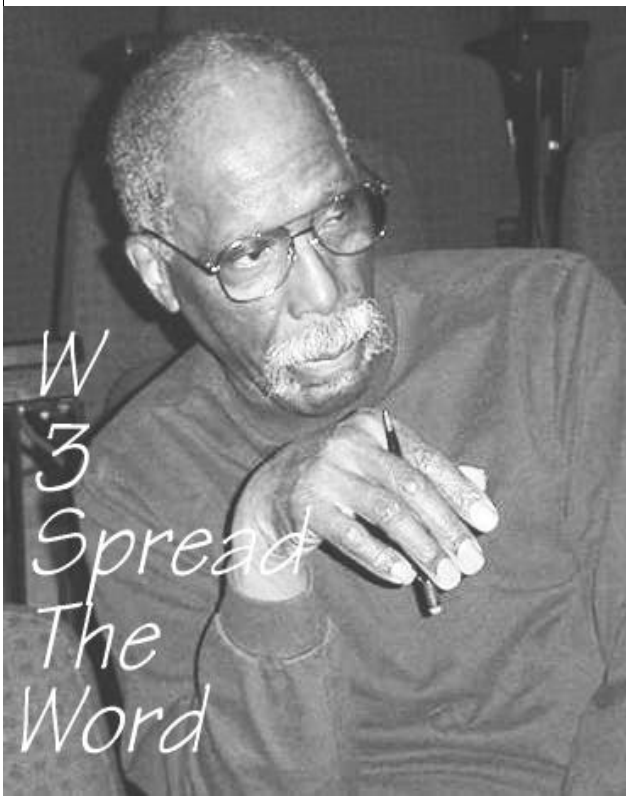


photo: WA3KIO

Spread The Word

--de Al W3STW, PMRC President

Greetings...

Spread the word that an effort is being made to get club members to wear their club badge at club meetings and especially at Field Day (FD).

The effort started at the May '05 general club meeting by generating a list of those attending that want a new badge. Great care was taken to assure the call sign and name was correctly listed, capital letters will be used.

The list was forwarded to Gene, N3XKE, who will make the badges. The cost is five (\$5.00) dollars payable to Gene.

If you would like a new badge to wear at FD and future club meetings, clearly print your call and the handle on a piece of paper and give it to Gene at the June 15, 2005 general meeting. This action assures your badge will be ready for your pickup at the June '05 FD site.

NOTE; the June '05 date to submit your request for a new badge is only a time line that assures your request for a new badge will be ready for your pickup at the FD site and not the end of the effort.

The effort to get you to wear your badge at club functions is an on going effort, badge requests after the June 15 '05 general meeting will be made in a timely manner, 73 Al.

Heads up!

The **June PMRC General Meeting**, which ordinarily would be held on the second Wednesday, June 8, has been **rescheduled** to the third Wednesday, which is June 15.

Make a note on your calendars!



Don't forget!
ARRL Field Day

2005

June 25-26

PMRC station W3EM will
operate on generator power from
Ft. Washington State Park.

Operators needed!
Visitors welcome!

Contact Camen KE3QB
PMRC Field Day Chairman
for more information

Date	June 2005 with PMRC
Wed 01	PMRC Board meeting at WRDV
Thu 02	VE Exams at Northeast High School – see p2
Fri 03	
Sat 04	
Sun 05	NCS: 2m and HF:N3QV
Mon 06	
Tue 07	
Wed 08	NO GENERAL MEETING TODAY – SEE JUNE 15
Thu 09	
Fri 10	
Sat 11	
Sun 12	NCS: 2m:N3OWM HF:WA3KIO
Mon 13	
Tue 14	Flag Day / Army Day
Wed 15	PMRC General meeting – see p2
Thu 16	
Fri 17	
Sat 18	
Sun 19	NCS: 2m and HF:KB3IV -- Father's Day
Mon 20	
Tue 21	
Wed 22	
Thu 23	
Fri 24	
Sat 25	ARRL Field Day
Sun 26	ARRL Field Day – NCS: 2m N3FH – HF W3STW
Mon 27	
Tue 28	
Wed 29	
Thu 30	

First Class Mail

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
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The Blue